

REMARKS

Claims 12-23 remain pending in this application. The amendments to the claims will be addressed in the rejections to which they are addressed.

We thank the examiner for acknowledging receipt of the claim for priority and priority documents, acceptance of the drawings, and consideration of the documents cited in the information disclosure statements.

Rejections: § 112, 2d paragraph

Claims 11, 13, 15, 21 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2d paragraph as being indefinite. We understand that the reference to claim 11 was intended to address claim 12. Claims 12, 13 and 15 have been rejected because they contain various trademark/trade name designations for the UV meters and filters used in the recited process. The Examiner correctly points out that a trademark or trade name is used to identify a source of goods, and not the goods themselves. Accordingly, these claims have been amended to delete reference to trademarks and trade names, and to insert amendments that are characteristic of the elements and device used in the claimed process. These amendments are supported by the attached catalogues of UV-M03, UV-35 Filter and UV-25 Filter, which were obtained from the manufacturer ORC Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

Please note that the catalogue of "UV-M02" recited in the original claims is no longer available, but we note that the attached catalog of "UV-M03", a new model following UV-M02", describes the difference from "UV-M02". The catalog of "UV-M03" in the first paragraph describes, "UV-M03 is a UV illuminometer, in which the former UV-M02 is provided with an actinometer" (the line indicated by an upper arrow), and

"Tha same sensor attached to the UV-M02 can be used for a photodetector" (the first line indicated by a lower arrow).

The amendments to claims 12, 13 and 15 are supported by the technical catalogues identifying the elements and UV meter identified in the specification and claims and are permitted in accordance with the practice described in MPEP 608.01(v)(I). Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

It is unclear why claim 22 was included in this rejection. Although dependent on claims 12 and 13, claim 22 was included in the statement of the rejection, whereas claims 16-19 were not. Since there does not appear to be a separate ground of rejection directed to claim 22, the examiner is requested to withdraw this rejection.

Claim 21 was rejected as being indefinite because of the recitation of "optical system." While it is respectfully submitted that a person skilled in this art would understand the meaning of this term in the context of the claimed invention, particularly where the system is recited to collect light between the light source and the photosensitive layer, this claim has been amended to replace the term "light source" with "a lens or a concave mirror." This text finds support in the specification as filed, in paragraph 0020, for example. Such an optical system may be used in an embodiment of this invention for increasing the illuminance of a low-intensity light source. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection: § 102(b) - Ogata

Claims 12, 14, 15, 18 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Ogata (JP 2003-241397). The Office argues that Ogata discloses a method of manufacturing a seamless sleeve body for laser engravable printing that meets the limitations of this claim except for the recitation regarding the "illuminance of

light at a surface of the photosensitive resin composition." The examiner improperly dismisses this limitation because it allegedly does not add a positive limitation to the claim, AND it would be expected to be the same in the process of Ogata.

First, it is respectfully submitted that it is incorrect to simply dismiss the illuminance limitation as failing to add a positive limitation. The examiner has cited no authority for dismissing any limitation in these claims, and particularly a limitation in the claim that addresses a characteristic of the light applied to the photosensitive resin composition layer in an explicitly recited step in the claimed process. Anticipation is not appropriate unless the reference teaches each limitation of the claimed invention. MPEP 2131.

Secondly, although it appears that the examiner is also relying on the principle of inherency to meet the illuminance limitation in the present claims, the examiner has not provided any basis for concluding that the recited luminance limitations are necessarily present in the teachings of Ogata, as opposed to simply a possibility or even a probability. See MPEP 2112(IV). As noted in the present specification at paragraph 0014, for example, when a layer of photosensitive composition is cured under the condition that the luminance of light at the surface of the photosensitive resin composition layer satisfies the conditions specified in these claims, the hardness of the cured product can be easily lowered while maintaining the curability of the surface of the cured product. Moreover, the mechanical physical properties of the product can be improved.

Ogata does not address, and therefore cannot teach, the illuminance of light at the surface of the photosensitive resin composition layer - note that this limitation does

not address, at least not directly, the illuminance of the light source. Ogata does not show any appreciation of the relationship of this parameter of the claimed process and the curability of the surface or the hardness of the cured product. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection: § 102(e) - Kannurpatti

Claims 12, 13, 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kannurpatti et al. (US 2002/0213003). The Examiner's position is that Kannurpatti et al. discloses the process and printing element according to the claimed invention, but that the limitation regarding the "illuminance of light at the surface of the photosensitive composition layer" does not add a positive limitation to the claim and would be expected to be the same as the prior art. If it is assumed that the reference to Ogata in this rejection was a mistake, and that the examiner intended to refer to Kannurpatti et al.

Kannurpatti et al., like Ogata, does not appear to be particularly concerned about the "illuminance of light" limitations in these claims in the step that requires applying light to the surface of the photosensitive layer. For example, in paragraph 0031 of this published application, it is only suggested that the ultraviolet radiation source should furnish an effective amount of radiation, and that the exposure time will vary depending on a variety of variables. For essentially the same reasons advanced above with respect to Ogata, the illuminance limitation in the claim must be addressed and it is unclear how the examiner can reasonably conclude that these recited parameters could be inherent in the teachings of Kannurpatti et al. who fails to recognize any relationship between the illuminance of the applying light step and the curability, hardness and

mechanical physical properties of the cured product. In addition, this patent document is silent on the loss tangent limitation of claim 23.

In paragraph 0019 (page 25, lines 18-26) of the present specification, it is stated, "The light source intensity is not synonymous with the illuminance, and the illuminance of light reaching the surface of the photosensitive resin may be low even if a light source having a high intensity is used, and conversely, the illuminance of light reaching the surface of the photosensitive resin can be increased by collecting light even if a light source having a low intensity is used." From this description, it is clear in the present invention that the term "light intensity of the UV source" is distinct from the "illuminance at a surface of the photosensitive resin composition layer". Accordingly, as Kannurpatti et al. fails to teach each limitation of these claims, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection: § 102(e) - Yokota et al.

Claims 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yokota et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,029,825). The Examiner takes the position that Yokota et al. discloses a photosensitive resin layer for laser engraving that can be obtained by a process that meets the limitations of claim 12, for example, except the examiner appears to disregard the illuminance of light limitation as failing to add a positive limitation, and because it would be expected to be the same as Yokota et al. Again, applicants assume that the reference to Ogata was a mistake.

Although Yokota et al. does teach some of the same steps of the recited process, it is unconcerned with the specific conditions of the lighting step that is used to photocure the photosensitive layer. In the paragraph bridging columns 20 and 21 of Yokota et al., it is suggested that a wide variety of light sources can be used for photocuring and relatively little guidance is given for the photocuring step. As noted

above, the illuminance limitations of the claims cannot be ignored, and the Examiner has not provided a proper foundation for concluding that these limitations are inherent in the teachings of Yokota et al. In addition, neither the Examiner nor Yokota et al. address the loss tangent limitation of claim 23. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 6, 2009

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Attachments: UV-M03, UV-35 Filter and UV-25 Filter Catalogues

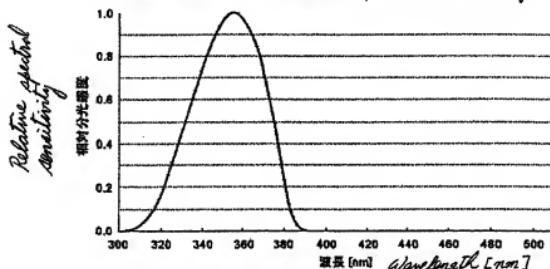
測定照度範囲 0.001~50mW/cm²測定光量範囲 0.001~19999mJ/cm²

合わせ込み精度 当社UV標準器に対して±1.5%以内

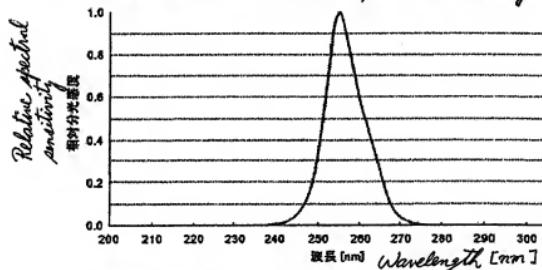
繰り返し精度 ±1.5%以内

UV Measuring Equipment / Photoreceiver / Spectral sensitivity characteristic

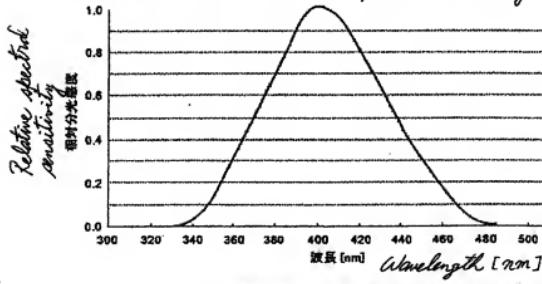
- ◆ UV計測器 受光器 分光感度特性
- ◆ UV-35倍對分光感度 UV-35 relative spectral sensitivity



- ◆ UV-25倍對分光感度 UV-25 relative spectral sensitivity



- ◆ UV-42倍對分光感度 UV-42 relative spectral sensitivity



製品に関するお問い合わせはこちら

◆ 関連製品

- ・紫外線光量計UV-351シリーズ
- ・紫外線光量計UV-M10-P/Sシリーズ

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PARTIAL TRANSLATION OF PRINTOUT OF WEBSITE OF ORC
MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

--A translation of the paragraph of "Characteristics" on page 1/3 of the printout of the website of ORC MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.--

"♦ Characteristics

- This product is a small-size and lightweight handy type by which the illuminance and light intensity from an exposure equipment can be easily controlled.
- Illuminance and light intensity can be easily measured.
- Photoreceivers can be chosen from those for UV-25, 35 and 42 depending on light source and sensitivity of resists (to be) used. It is recommended that UV-SN25, UV-SN35 and UV-SN42 be chosen for production process for electronic circuit (printed) boards, and UV-SD25, UV-SD35 and UV-SD42 for production process for semiconductors and boards for liquid crystals.
- Measurement data can be transferred through RS-232C communication output.
- Analogue output is applicable."

Other translations are directly written on the attached printout in handwriting. It is evident from UV relative spectral sensitivity on page 2/3 that the designations of UV-35, UV-25 and UV-42 represent the wavelength of a peak in the spectral sensitivity.